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SEC 4-3

20 October 1967

Dr. G. Etzel Percy
The Geographer
Office of Strategic and Functional Research
Department of State
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear Etzel:

In response to your letter of 12 October 1967 concerning our Intelligence Memoranda series and the possible sanitization of these Memoranda, I am pleased to note the Department's interest in making this material available to a wider readership in the Government. As I reported to you previously, however, there are major difficulties involved. Our analysts could not avoid the expenditure of substantial time running down the classified sources. They then would have to spend additional time getting downgrading action from the apparent originating agency. Finally, where downgrading was denied or infeasible, they would have to rewrite around (or redraft, in the case of maps) the offending material. I don't feel we can afford this effort. It would be impossible for anyone from your office to do the job unaided, and the load here would still bulk large.

The Intelligence Memoranda series does get a rather wide distribution in the Government. We are confident that by this distribution it satisfies the principal need of Government officials to be apprised of this background material. In any event, our limited resources force us to halt the effort there.

Sincerely,

/s/ 
James A. Brammell
Director

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Basic and Geographic Intelligence

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D/BGI:JABrammell: :jmc (20 Oct 1967)

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